Attorney Docket No.: 124907-00111 Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2006

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings and versions of claims in this application:

1. (currently amended) A process for obtaining an aryloxypropanolamine of the chemical name 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol of the formula

$$\mathsf{CH_3OCH_2CH_2} \hspace{-2pt} \longleftarrow \hspace{-2pt} \mathsf{OCH_2CH(OH)CH_2NHCH(CH_3)_2}$$

comprising:

- A) combining 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol with epichlorohydrin;
- B) reacting said combination of 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol and epichlorohydrin in an alkaline aqueous medium at a temperature of 40-45°C;
- C) extracting and washing the organic phase reaction product of step B at a pH of 7.0-8.0 with water at pH 7.5 ± 0.5 ; and
- D) obtaining a crude reaction product comprising 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane;
- E) combining said 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane with isopropanolamine; and
- F) reacting said combination of 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane with isopropyl amine in an aqueous medium at a temperature of about 30 °C, to obtain 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol.

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- 2. (currently amended) The process of claim 1, wherein:
 - A) said 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol and said epichlorohydrin are combined in a molar ratio of about 1:1.31.
- 3. (currently amended) The process of claim 2, wherein:
- B) said-reacting 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol and epichlorhydrin is at 42.5 ± 2.5.degree. C.;
- D) said crude reaction product is composed of about 97 to 99% of 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane.
- 4. (currently amended) The process of claim 3, wherein:

 E) said 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane and isopropyl amine are combined in a molar ratio of about 1:5.25
- 5. (currently amended) The process of claim [[4]] 1, further comprising:
- G) quenching said reaction mass comprising 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol with a quantity of water at below 25 °C;
- <u>H</u>) extracting said 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol from said aqueous reaction medium with a polar solvent at a temperature of not more than about 25°C.; and
 - H) I) removing said solvent by distillation under reduced pressure.

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6. (currently amended) The process of claim 5, further comprising:

1) J) combining said 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol with succininc acid in a molar ratio approximately 1:2 in a solution of pH 7.2; and J) K) isolating from said solution the succinate form of said 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol.

7. (currently amended) The process of claim 5, further comprising:

- 1) J) combining said 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol with tartaric acid acid in a molar ratio approximately 1:2 in a solution of pH 6.2; and 1) K) isolating from said solution the tartarate form of said 1-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol.
- 8. (withdrawn) A product of the chemical name 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-met-hylethyl)amino]-2-propanol of the formula

$$\mathsf{CH_3OCH_2CH_2} \hspace{-2pt} \longrightarrow \hspace{-2pt} -\mathsf{OCH_2CH(OH)CH_2NHCH(CH_3)_2}$$

made by a process comprising:

A) combining 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol with epichlorhydrin;

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B) reacting said combination of 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol and epichlorhydrin in an alkaline aqueous medium;

C) extracting and washing the organic phase reaction product of Step B with water at pH 7.5±0.5; and

D) obtaining a crude reaction product comprising 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epo-xypropane;

E) combining said 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropan- e with isopropanolamine;

F) reacting said combination of 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane and isopropanolamine in an aqueous medium at a temperature about 30°C., to obtain 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol.

9. (withdrawn) The product of claim 8, wherein:

A) said 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol and said epichlorhydrin are combined in a molar ratio of about 1:1.31.

10. (withdrawn) The product of claim 9, wherein:

- B) said reacting 4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenol and epichlorhydrin is at 42.5±2.5°C.; and
- D) said crude reaction product is composed of about 97 to 99% of 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy]-1,2-epoxypropane.

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11. (withdrawn) The product of claim 10, wherein:

E) said 3-[4-(2-methoxyethyl)phenoxy-]-1,2-epoxypropane and isopropanolamine are combined in a molar ratio of about 1:5.25.

12. (withdrawn) The process of claim 11, further comprising:

G) extracting said 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol from said aqueous reaction medium with a polar solvent at a temperature of not more than about 25.degree. C.; and

H) removing said solvent by distillation under reduced pressure.

13. (withdrawn) The process of claim 12, further comprising:

I) combining said 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol with succinic acid in a molar ratio of approximately 1:2 in a solution of pH about 7.2, and

J) isolating from said solution the succinate form of said 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol.

14. (withdrawn) The process of claim 12, further comprising:

I) combining said 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol with tartaric acid in a molar ratio of approximately 1:2 in a solution of pH about 6.2; and

J) isolating from said solution the tartarate form of said 1-[4-)2-methoxyethyl)-phenoxy]-3-[(1-methylethyl)amino]-2-propanol.